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ACTION: NONE INFO: CRU, D/SOV, ODPH-H, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, OGI/ISI/WP, OSA/PA/S, OSWR/TTC/S, PLANFAC-E (), RF, SOV/CS, SOV/CS/CA, SOV/CS/E/N, SOV/CS/E/P, SOV/CS/S/M, SOV/CS/S/S, SOV/CS/Y, SOV/DI/A, SOV/PA/C, SOV/PA/F, SOV/SFD, SOV/SFE, SOV/SFO, FILE, A/DDI/SP, D/OCR-3, D/OSWR, DDI, DDI/ACIS, DDST, DSD/ABM, DSD/DEB, NIO/SP, NIO/USSR, NPIC, SOO, (15/W)

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EXDIS

USSCC

E.D. 12356: DECL: DADR

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: (U) REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE

REFERENCE: SCC-XXII-011

1. THIS IS SCC-XXIII-028. SECRET--ENTIRE TEXT.

- 2. ON THE 2000 HOURS NOVEMBER 26 VOA NEWSLINE PROGRAM FOUR OR FIVE MINUTES WERE SPENT DESCRIBING A "PENTAGON REPORT" ON U.S. CONCERNS THAT SOVIET UNION MAY HAVE DEPLOYED SS-16 MISSILES AT PLESETSK CONTRARY TO SALT II AGREEMENT. REPORT STATED, INTER ALIA, THAT WHILE U.S. DID NOT HAVE PROOF MISSILES WERE DEPLOYED, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT MISSILES MAY BE DEPLOYED. REPORT DID NOT GIVE NAMES OR SOURCES OF STORY BEYOND IDENTIFYING IT AS PENTAGON REPORT BUT DID STATE NO OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY HAD CONFIRMED REPORT.
- 3. WHEN RAISING THE SS-16 ICBM SUBJECT WITH SOVIETS ON SEPTEMBER 23 I INCLUDED FOLLOWING IN MY PLENARY STATEMENT. BEGIN TEXT. YOU MAY ASK, WHY RAISE THIS QUESTION IN THE SCC WHICH BY AGREEMENT IS CONCERNED PRIMARILY WITH THREE SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS. MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT OUR MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN CONSIDERING AND RESOLVING QUESTIONS OF COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE ARMS AGREEMENTS AND RELATED AMBIGUOUS SITUATIONS, IN OUR CONFIDENTIAL AND BUSINESSLIKE ENVIRONMENT, QUALIFIES THE SCC AS THE BEST FORUM WITHIN WHICH TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION. END TEXT. (REFTEL)
- 4. IF THIS IS AN OFFICIAL U.S. REPORT IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY U.S. COMPONENT WAS NOT CONSULTED OR AT LEAST NOTIFIED OF REASONS FOR PUBLICATION. SOVIETS WILL MAVE EVERY REASON TO REGARD THIS AS GROSS EXAMPLE OF BAD FAITH IN SENSITIVE NEGOTIATIONS. WASHINGTON SHOULD PROVIDE U.S. COMPONENT AN EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE FOR VOA STORY WHICH CAN BE GIVEN IN RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE SOVIET QUERY AT DUR 1600 HOURS (GENEVA TIME) MEETING ON NOVEMBER 29.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THIS IS A PENTAGON LEAK I

REQUEST IT BE IDENTIFIED AS SUCH AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL. ADDITIONALLY, IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET QUERY, REQUEST I BE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE SOVIETS BRIEF STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: BEGIN TEXT: VOA NOVEMBER 26 NEWS REPORT CONCERNING POSSIBLE DEPLOYMENT OF SS-16 WAS NOT AUTHORIZED OR APPROVED FOR RELEASE BY U.S. GOVERNMENT. IT IS THE INTENTION OF U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE SS-16 QUESTION, INITIATED IN SCC BY U.S. COMPONENT ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1982, UNDER RULES OF CONFIDENTIALITY GOVERNING ALL DISCUSSIONS IN SCC AS ESTABLISHED IN SCC REGULATIONS. END TEXT.

6. WE ARE WORKING WITH U.S. MISSION, GENEVA, TO OBTAIN TEXT OF VOA REPORT. HOWEVER, REQUEST WASHINGTON FORWARD VOA TEXT ASAP AS BACK-UP TO MISSION EFFORT.ELLIS END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

State Dept. review completed

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